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C O N F I D E N T I A L ANKARA 001374

SIPDIS

DEPT. FOR P, EUR, EUR/SE, NEA AND NEA/NGA;  
NSC FOR AMB. KHALILZAD;  
OSD FOR USDP LUTI

E.O. 12958: DECL: 03/03/2013  
TAGS: [PREL](#) [MARR](#) [MOPS](#) [PREF](#) [PHUM](#) [TU](#) [IZ](#) [UNSC](#)  
SUBJECT: NORTHERN IRAQ: TURKEY SEEKS KDP ASSURANCES OF NO  
VIOLENCE AGAINST TURKMEN IN WAKE OF LARGE ANTI-TURK  
DEMONSTRATION IN IRBIL

REF: ANKARA 1360

Classified by Ambassador W. Robert Pearson. Reasons 1.5 b  
and d.

[1](#)1. (C) This is an action request, para 3.

[1](#)2. (C) MFA Deputy Undersecretary Ali Tuygan called Ambassador the night of March 3 to express concern about reftel demonstration. Tuygan asked if the US had made representation about the demonstration to the Kurdistan Democratic Party (KDP). He said that Turkey had been unable to reach KDP leaders, and that Turkey was concerned that such large, anti-Turkey demonstrations had the potential to degenerate into mob violence against the Iraqi Turkmen population of Irbil. Tuygan asked that the USG pass on to the KDP Turkey's concern and urge the KDP leadership to exercise restraint over its population.

[1](#)3. (C) While by all reports the March 3 demonstration was peaceful, we believe Washington should contact KDP leaders to convey the Turkish concern and seek a commitment from the KDP to do all in its power to prevent violence against the Iraqi Turkmen. We believe the KDP should be commended for keeping the March 3 demonstration peaceful, but should also be reminded of the extreme sensitivity in Turkey at this critical time.  
PEARSON